

A RESOLUTION to honor the World War II veterans upon the 50th anniversary of the conclusion of the war and to designate 1995 as "World War II Veterans Appreciation Year".

WHEREAS, World War II commenced in 1939 as a localized conflict in eastern Europe and expanded until it merged with a confrontation in the Far East to form a global war of immense proportions; and

WHEREAS, involving most of the world's major powers as belligerents, serious diplomatic, political, and economic problems were brought to the fore and an environment was created in which militaristic authoritarianism flourished; and

WHEREAS, the year 1995 marks the 50th anniversary of the cessation of this immense global conflict and an end to the death and destruction that had spanned the six-year war; and

WHEREAS, we owe a great debt to those members of our armed forces who lost their lives in that conflict, and also to those who survived and aided in carrying out their duties to the ultimate victory; and

WHEREAS, during World War II, thousands of Tennesseans, both men and women, were in uniform on the battlefields of the world, in the Pacific, China, Burma, India, the Middle East, North Africa, Italy, France, Germany, wherever the Allies were fighting; and

WHEREAS, some 28 army divisions were trained in maneuvers in Middle Tennessee; Camps Forrest and Campbell provided excellent training grounds for United States Army soldiers; an Army Air Corps training unit was established near Smyrna; an air force base at Halls in Lauderdale County provided support; the naval base and air school at Millington in Shelby County was the largest inland base in the country; and

WHEREAS, famous Tennesseans of the day included Lt. Gen. Frank W. Andrews of Nashville, who commanded United States troops in Europe until his untimely death in a 1943 plane crash; famous air ace, Colonel Claiborne Kinnard of Franklin; Cordell Hull, who served as secretary of state throughout most of the war and retired Major General Hugh Mott of Nashville, who led a small force in the capture of the Ludendorf Bridge across the Rhine, opening the allied invasion into Germany; and

WHEREAS, it is now highly appropriate that this General Assembly calls upon all of Tennessee's citizens to pay homage to the many veterans from our great state and our nation, as they were significant contributors toward the cessation of dangerous tendencies of bellicose nationalism that threatened constitutional government and world order; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor the World War II veterans of our state and all of the members of this great nation's armed forces who served valiantly in the epic global war which concluded fifty years ago.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That upon this 50th anniversary, we designate the year 1995 as "World War II Veteran's Appreciation Year", in honor and remembrance of the thousands of men and women who dedicated themselves to the preservation of peace and liberty worldwide.

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